

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 12 of the Second Extraordinary Session
By Fowlkes

A RESOLUTION to recognize Dr. Gerald Stowe on the occasion
of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who in their years of work have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gerald Stowe is one such estimable person who has served with probity and acumen for fifteen years as President and Treasurer of Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes; he is taking a much deserved retirement from this important position on December 31, 1999; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Stowe exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, during his illustrious tenure as President and Treasurer, Dr. Stowe has been instrumental in some of Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes greatest accomplishments, including the foundation of two homes for unwed mothers, located in Clarksville and Greeneville, respectively, and the foundation of a large boys ranch in Millington, the Living Waters Home in Elizabethton, the House of Healing and Hope in Brentwood, the Family Preservation Program in Union City, the Knoxville Center in Knoxville, and the Family Resource Center in Cleveland; and

WHEREAS, Gerald Stowe is an active and important part of the community and his profession and a diligent servant of his faith; he has served with distinction as President of the

Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board and as a member of the North American Mission Board; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Stowe has also contributed his time and numerous talents to the health and welfare of Tennessee's children as a member of the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth; he presently serves as a member of the National Association of Homes and Services for Children; and

WHEREAS, prior to coming to Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Dr. Stowe performed the Lord's work by pastoring churches in Texas and Tennessee for twenty-five years; and

WHEREAS, this exceptional scholar and professional received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from the University of Tennessee and earned his M.Div. and D.Min. degrees from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, respectively; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Stowe is indeed fortunate to share love and companionship with his lovely wife of forty-five years, Barbara; the happy couple are faithful members of the First Baptist Church of Franklin; and

WHEREAS, the Stowes are the proud parents of three adult "chosen" children, Steve, Lori and Chris and have seven wonderful grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Dr. Stowe has demonstrated a remarkable ability to motivate others to reach their potential, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his peers; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Stowe's astute and dedicated service to Tennessee's children should be specially recognized as his brilliant career as President and Treasurer of Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes comes to an end; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and commend Dr. Gerald Stowe upon his fifteen years of

exemplary service as President and Treasurer of Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes and extend to this outstanding public servant and humble Christian our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.